

Accountability Issues and Best Practices

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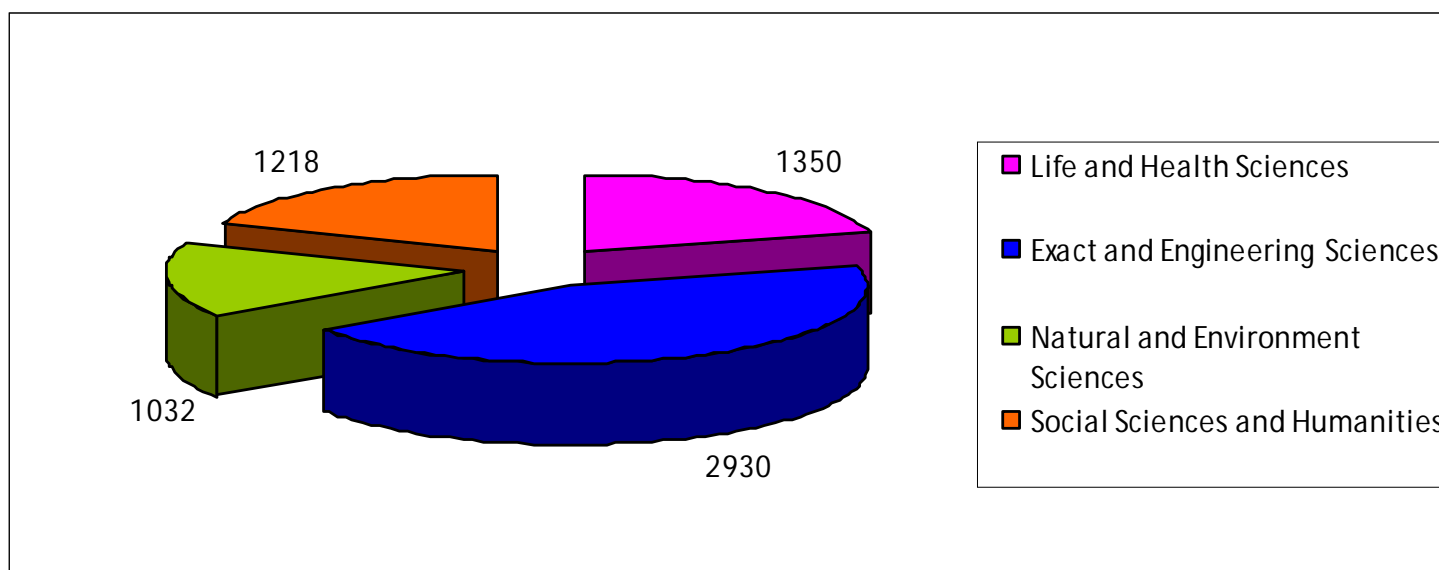
International Workshop on Accountability Challenges
Lisbon, Portugal | 16-18 June 2009

FCT in numbers

- ▶ Research projects
 - App 6000 active projects
 - 2006 Call – 1200 new projects
- ▶ Fellowships and grants
 - 5 year contracts for PhD researchers
 - 1000
 - Post-doc and PhD grants
 - App 8000
 - Others
- ▶ Research units
 - Pluriannual funding
 - App. 300 units
 - 25 Associate Laboratories
 - 10500 researchers with PhD

Research projects

6530 active projects, divided by 4 scientific domains



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From Proposal Submission to Project Closing

- ▶ Submission
- ▶ Validation
- ▶ Evaluation
- ▶ Execution
- ▶ Closing

SUBMISSION

- ▶ Each call is subject to a public announcement
 - FCT web page, main newspapers, massive mailings
- ▶ Proposals are submitted online
- ▶ FCT provides a Guide for Submission and FAQs on the website
- ▶ 2008 general call: Nov.08–Feb.09
 - 5809 proposals
- ▶ Completely paperless process

SUBMISSION

RULES for PIs

- ▶ Minimum 25% of time allocated to each project
- ▶ Time allocation in all funded projects $\leq 100\%$
- ▶ Calls for proposals state that

if all obligations towards FCT in previous projects are not fulfilled, PI is not allowed to submit a proposal

VALIDATION

Verification of the formal requirements of the call:

- Electronic submission of a Commitment Statement (PI, involved institutions)
- PI's track record (final reports)
- Institutional track record
 - No outstanding debt towards Social Security and Tax Authorities
 - No outstanding debt towards FCT

EVALUATION

- ▶ International, independent panels organized by scientific area
 - 2008 Call: 31 panels, 257 panel members, 1493 external evaluators
 - All the evaluators sign a Confidentiality Statement and complete a Conflict of Interest Statement
- ▶ Evaluation process completely paperless
- ▶ FCT provides a Guide for Evaluators, which is publicly available on the web site

EVALUATION

- ▶ Two evaluation phases:

- 1) Individual (on line) Evaluation

- Each proposal is evaluated in-depth by two independent experts

- Reviewers have access to other proposals by the same PI

- 2) Panel Meeting (in Lisbon)

- Ranking of the proposals (0-100)

- Recommendation for funding,

- Scientific recommendations on the work-plan and financial allocation

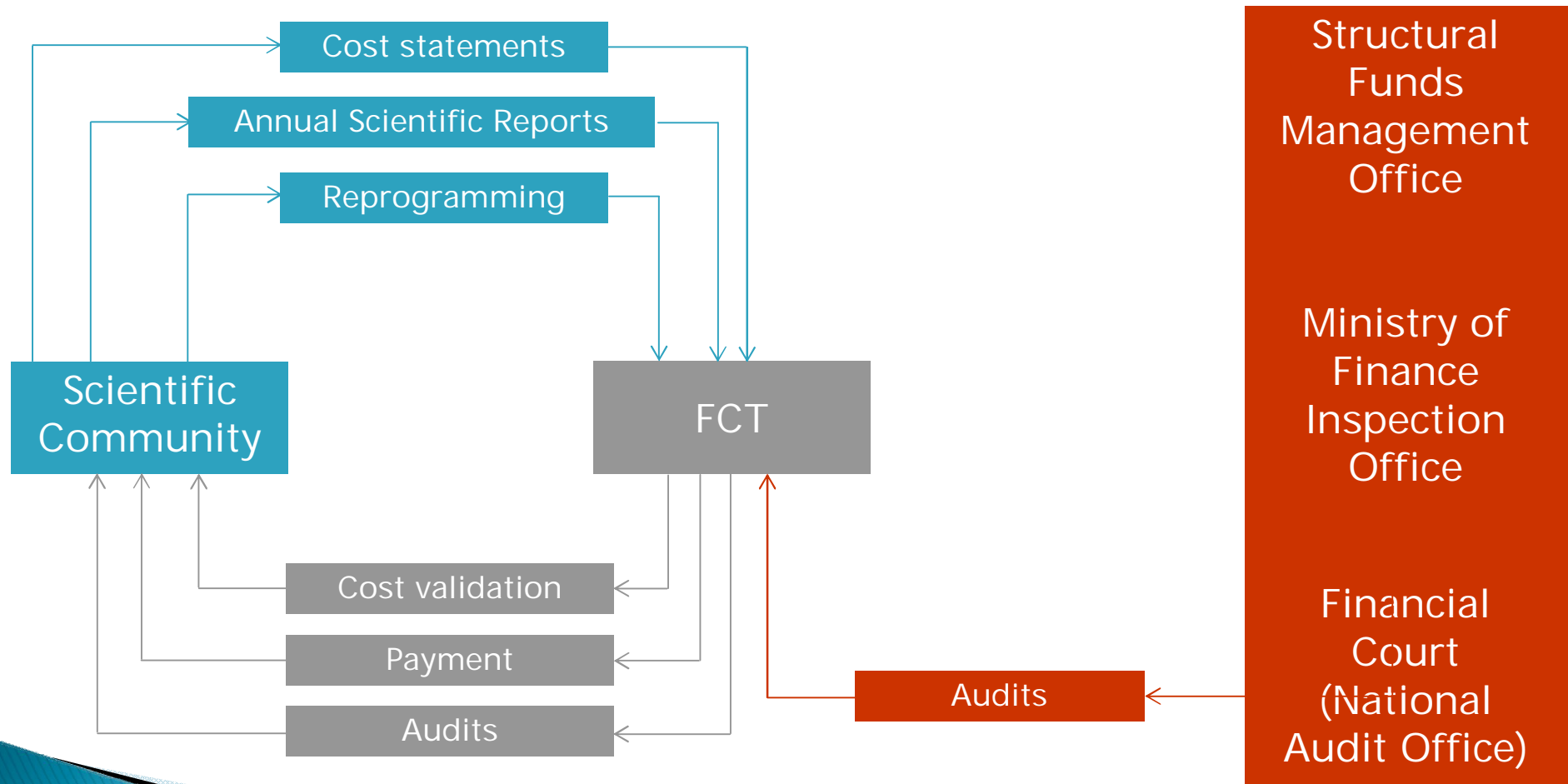
- Final report with recommendations for FCT

EXECUTION

Funded items

- ▶ Human Resources
- ▶ Missions
- ▶ Consultants
- ▶ Acquisition of goods and services
- ▶ Registration of patents abroad
- ▶ Adaptation of buildings and facilities
- ▶ Acquisition of scientific and technical instruments
- ▶ Overheads

EXECUTION



CLOSING

- ▶ Evaluation of final scientific reports
- ▶ National panels organized by scientific area
 - Compliance with the initial work-plan
 - Decision: approved / not approved
- ▶ If approved, final payment
- ▶ If not approved, funding must be returned to FCT

CLOSING

